

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (*Amended*) A thermostat and remote control apparatus, each said thermostat and remote control apparatus comprising:

a housing;

an interface disposed in said housing;

a plurality of icons on the interface, which correspond to a set of controls for items that are controlled by the apparatus; a display screen, which indicates the current temperature setting, time and date;

a recessed program and enter button that allows a user to enter temperature settings to a thermostat;

a clear button for deleting any entered information;

~~an electric cradle that is used to recharge the apparatus;~~

a {USB} port and a plurality of serial/ parallel ports that are used to connect a computerized device to the apparatus;

an RS-232 port to standardize a transmission of serial data between any devices and the apparatus;

a microcontroller for processing information and data;

a serial to parallel converter and a parallel to serial converter; and

a transmitting means for transmitting a signal to and receiving from each other and an item that can be controlled by the apparatus;

said remote control apparatus also including an electric cradle that is used to recharge the apparatus.

Claim 2. (*Amended*) The apparatus according to claim 1, ~~further comprising an entertainment center, and~~ wherein the item controlled by the apparatus is ~~said an~~ an entertainment center.

Claim 3. (*Amended*) The apparatus according to claim 1, ~~further comprising a thermostat and HVAC system, and~~ wherein the item controlled and monitored by the apparatus is ~~said a~~ a thermostat and HVAC system.

Claim 4. (*Amended*) The apparatus according to claim 1, ~~further comprising household appliances, and~~ wherein items controlled by the apparatus are ~~said~~ household appliances.

Claim 5. (*Amended*) The apparatus according to claim 1, ~~further comprising devices with an X-10 protocol, and~~ wherein items controlled by the apparatus are ~~said~~ devices with an X-10 protocol.

Claim 6. (*Amended*) The apparatus according to claim 1, ~~further comprising a security system, and~~ wherein the item controlled by the apparatus is ~~said a~~ a security system.

Claim 7. (*Original*) The apparatus according to claim 6, said security system arranged and configured to open and close windows, lock and unlock doors and windows, open and close drapes and vents, and turn lights on and off on a fixed or random schedule.

Claim 8. (*Original*) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a global positioning locator device.

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Claim 9. (*Amended*) The apparatus according to claim 7 8, wherein said global positioning satellite locator device further comprises a programmed stealth alarm mode.

Claim 10. (*Amended*) The apparatus according to claim 1, ~~further comprising an OCR document scanner, and~~ wherein the item controlled by the apparatus is said an OCR document scanner.

Claim 11. (*Original*) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said electric cradle further comprises a memory media for storage.

Claim 12. (*Original*) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said electric cradle has a battery charger and chargeable battery pack.

Claim 13. (*Original*) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the apparatus is capable of communicating with a second thermostat and remote control apparatus.

Claim 14. (*Original*) The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said apparatus has two-way communication capability with the second thermostat and remote control apparatuses.

Claim 15. (*Original*) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said microcontroller is connected to a speaker, a microphone, a camera and a plurality of external jacks.

Claim 16. (*Amended*) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the apparatus is configured to have the capability to communicate also includes a roll-over communication element for communicating through the frequency spectrum via a cell telephone, a satellite communication, a global positioning system, a weather radio, WWV time update and local RF intercommunication, whereby if one form of communication is unavailable, another communications device is automatically actuated.

Claim 17. (*Original*) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a computerized device is connected to a USB port for viewing, keyboard capability and storage media utilization.

Claim 18. (*Original*) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprises a built-in timer and clock.

Claim 19. (*Original*) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprises voice activated and recognition software.

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Claim 20. (*Original*) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said transmitting means for transmitting information to and from an item comprises an infrared transmitter and receiver.

Claim 21. (*Original*) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said transmitting means for transmitting information to and from an item comprises a radio frequency transmitter and receiver.

Claim 22. (*Original*) The apparatus according to claim 1, arranged and configured such that roll-over communication capability exists between said transmitting means.

Claim 23. (*Original*) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said apparatus is connected to a digital port for viewing.

Claim 24. (*Canceled*)

Claim 25. (*Canceled*)

Claim 26. (*Amended*) The apparatus according to claim 1, ~~further comprising~~ pet wherein the item to be controlled by the apparatus includes surveillance and monitoring equipment.

Claim 27. (*Amended*) The apparatus according to claim 1, ~~further comprising~~ wherein the item to be controlled by the apparatus includes yard and greenhouse diagnosis, surveillance, supervision and maintenance equipment.

Claim 28. (*Amended*) The apparatus according to claim 1, ~~further comprising~~ wherein the item to be controlled by the apparatus includes vehicle engine start-up and warming equipment.

Claim 29. (*Original*) The apparatus according to claim 28, further comprising the configuration of said remote control apparatus to lock and unlock vehicle doors and to monitor the location of the vehicle.

Claim 30. (*Original*) The apparatus according to claim 1, ~~further comprising~~ wherein said apparatus and additional predetermined and configured ~~additional~~ said remote control ~~units~~ that are arranged and configured apparatuses are able to communicate, program, control, monitor and download data and/or ~~programs~~ program to one another using one or more of IR, RF, cell, satellite or telephone communication means.

Claim 31. (*Original*) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a touch screen and at least one I/O port, said display being an LCD display, and software means internally of the remote control apparatus for controlling, monitoring and processing information and providing an interface for running additional programs, games and communication(s) software.

Claim 32. (*Original*) The apparatus according to claim 31, further comprising a parallel bus port for insertion of add-on modules, said bus port being recessed into said remote control apparatus.

Claim 33. (*Original*) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising means for accessing one or more other computers from said remote control apparatus, for accessing files for reading, maintaining and updating.

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Claim 34. (*Amended*) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising means for TV and/or radio audio-visual communications from said remote control ~~unit~~ apparatus.

Claim 35. (*Amended*) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising means for teleconferencing from said remote control ~~unit~~ apparatus.

Claim 36. (*Amended*) The apparatus according to claim 1, ~~further comprising wherein~~ said item includes means for monitoring and controlling water and/or air contamination and decontamination.

Claim 37. (*Amended*) The apparatus according to claim 1, ~~further comprising wherein~~ said item includes means for monitoring and controlling one or more of swimming pool water levels, temperature, PH and temperature.

Claim 38. (*Canceled*)

39. (Amended) A ~~controlled~~ controllable remote control apparatus, comprising:

- a housing;
- an interface disposed in said housing;
- a plurality of icons on the interface, which correspond to a set of controls for items that are controlled by the apparatus;
- a display screen;
- a clear button for deleting any entered information;
- a (USB) port for the uploading and downloading of predetermined software and data;
- a microcontroller for processing information and data;
- a serial to parallel converter, and a parallel to serial converter; and
- a transmitting means for transmitting a signal to and receiving from ~~an~~ at least one item that can control the remote control apparatus.

Claim 40. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 39, ~~further comprising wherein~~ the at least one item is a controllable thermostat and remote control apparatus, which comprises:
for bi-directional communication with the remote control apparatus, said controllable thermostat including:

- a housing;
- an interface disposed in said housing;
- a plurality of icons on the interface, which correspond to a set of controls for items that are controlled by the apparatus;
- a display screen, which indicates the current temperature setting, time and date;

a recessed program and enter button that allows a user to enter temperature settings to a thermostat;

a clear button for deleting any entered information;

an electric cradle that is used to recharge the apparatus;

a {USB} port and a plurality of serial/ parallel ports that are used to connect a computerized device to the apparatus;

an RS-232 port to standardize a transmission of serial data between any devices and the apparatus;

a microcontroller for processing information and data;

a serial to parallel converter and a parallel to serial converter; and

a transmitting means for transmitting a signal to and receiving from said ~~controlled~~ contrallable remote control apparatus.